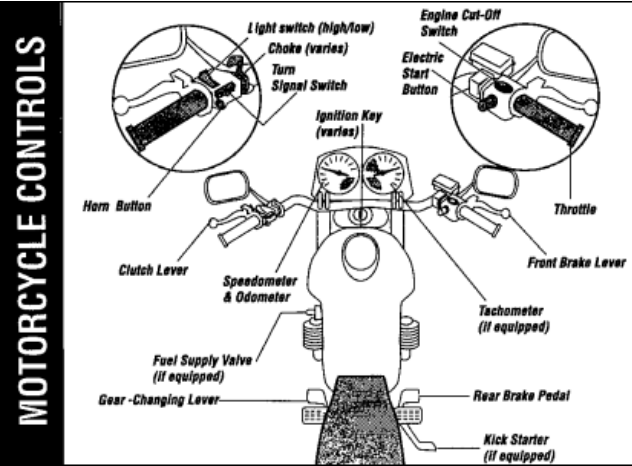


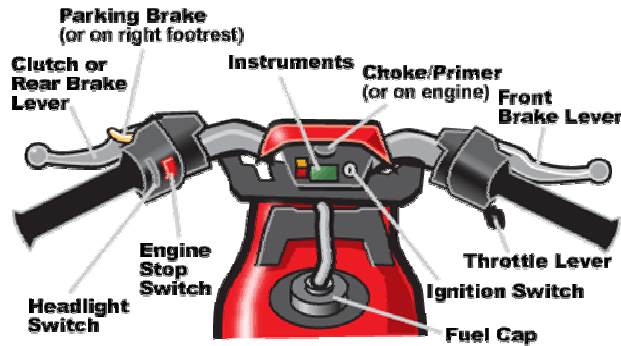
Primary Controls:

Throttle, Clutch Lever, Gearshift Lever, Front Brake Lever and Rear Brake Pedal.

Motorcycle Controls:



ATV Controls:



****All information in this flyer is subject to change but is valid as of March 2009.**

Coconino County Sheriff's Office

**A GUIDE TO
ATV & MOTORCYCLE SAFETY**



The Coconino County Sheriff's Office has prepared this brochure as an informational guide to agency policy and statutory regulations regarding the lawful operation of motorcycles and all-terrain vehicles within Coconino County's jurisdiction.

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It is important for operators of these types of vehicles to be knowledgeable of all the statutes pertaining to the lawful operation of motorcycles and ATV's when they are being driven within the county. The Coconino County Sheriff's Office is required by law to enforce all licensing, use and operating laws concerning the operation of these vehicles. We encourage operators to familiarize themselves with all applicable laws as prescribed by Arizona Revised Statutes under **title 13** (criminal code) and **title 28** (traffic enforcement code).

Arizona State Law (**A.R.S. 28-921 to 28-966**) requires the following equipment for these vehicles to operate on a public highway: horn, rearview mirror, muffler, brake system approved by MVD, headlight, tail light, stop light, license plate light, fuel tank cap, and if a passenger is being carried, a seat, foot rest, and hand rails are required for the passenger.

Parents should be aware that under **A.R.S. 28-3474**, permitting unauthorized minor to drive, they may be held accountable for the actions of the minor child who is operating the vehicle. Arizona State Law requires that all ATV's be titled, and the owner shall receive one numbered plate valid for the life of the vehicle. All riders (operator and passenger) under the age of 18 must wear a helmet at all times. No passengers are allowed on the ATV unless it is designed to carry more than one person.

New State Laws on Off-Highway Vehicle Use:

- Effective January 1, 2009, you must annually purchase an off-highway vehicle decal (OHV Decal) for any off-highway vehicle you have that is designed by the manufacturer primarily for off-highway use and weighs 1,800 pounds or less, in order to operate it in Arizona. This includes most all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), side-by-side (utility vehicles), dirt bikes and some sand rails. The OHV Decal must be affixed to the OHV's license plate.
- All OHV's must have an Arizona Certificate of Title and license plate prior to purchasing the OHV Decal. If your vehicle is already titled and has a license plate you can obtain the OHV Decal online at www.servicearizona.com.
- For more information: www.azdot.gov/mvd.
- The cost of the OHV Decal is \$25. Revenues generated from the OHV Decal will help better manage Arizona's rapidly growing OHV use, protect natural resources, and ensure sustainable OHV opportunities.
- The OHV Decal is an annual user fee, which is not the same as "registration".
- Travel is limited to roads, trails and areas open by the land management agency for motorized vehicle use.
- OHV's must have a muffler or noise dissipative device to limit sound to less the 96 decibels.
- Anyone under the age of 18 will be required to wear a properly fitted and fastened U.S. Department of Transportation approved helmet when riding any OHV.

ATV Safety

Like other activities involving high speeds and heavy machinery, riding an ATV can be risky. To help stay safe, follow all common sense safety tips. Take knowledge to the extreme and learn more about these important tips for safer riding.

Get trained - take a hands-on safety training course.
Wear a helmet and protective gear - many ATV injuries are head injuries.

No children on adult ATVs - children are involved in about one-third of all ATV-related deaths and hospital emergency room injuries. Many of these deaths and injuries occur when a child is driving or riding on an adult ATV. Children under 16 on adult ATV are twice as likely to be injured as those riding youth ATVs.

Don't ride tandem - the majority of ATV's are designed to carry only one person. ATVs are designed for interactive riding – drivers must be able to shift their weight freely in all directions, depending on the situation and terrain. Interactive riding is critical to maintaining safe control of an ATV especially on varying terrain.

Don't ride on pavement - ATVs because of how they're made are difficult to control on paved roads. Collisions with cars and other vehicles also can be deadly. Many fatalities involving ATVs occur on paved roads.

Don't ride under the influence - Alcohol and drugs impair reaction time and judgment, two essential skills for safe ATV use.

What To Know Before YOU Go:

- ATVs are not toys! They are powerful and potentially dangerous vehicles.
- ATVs can travel at speeds in excess of 60 miles per hour and can weigh in excess of 700 pounds.
- ATVs can easily roll and tip over. Their unpredictable nature in off-road conditions makes training and proper use essential.
- All riders should always wear a helmet when on an ATV.
- About one-third of ATV-related deaths and injuries involve children. Anyone younger than 16 years of age should never be on an adult ATV.
- Stay off paved roads and avoid unfamiliar terrain.
- Never carry a passenger on a single-rider ATV.
- Do not drive an ATV while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Definitions:

All-terrain vehicle (ATV) means a motor vehicle that satisfies all of the following:

- Is designed primarily for recreational non-highway all-terrain travel.
- Is 50 or fewer inches in width.
- Has an unladen weight of 800 pounds or less.
- Travels on three or more low-pressure tires.
- Has a seat to be straddled by the operator and handlebars for steering control.
- Is operated on a public highway. **ARS 28-101.3**

Off-road recreational motor vehicle means a motor vehicle that is designed primarily for recreational non-highway all-terrain travel and that is not operated on a public highway. **ARS 28-101.34**

Street or highway means the entire width between the boundary lines of every way if a part of the way is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.

Off-highway vehicle means a motorized vehicle when operated off of highways on land, water, snow, ice or other natural terrain or on a combination of land, water, snow, and ice or other natural terrain. Includes a two-wheel, three-wheel, or four-wheel vehicle, motorcycle, four-wheel drive vehicle, dune buggy, amphibious vehicle, ground effects or air cushion vehicle and any other means of land transportation deriving motive power from a source other than muscle or wind. **ARS 28-1171.3.a.b**

Arizona Off-highway Vehicle (OHV) Laws:

It is unlawful for a person to drive or be in actual physical control of a vehicle in this state...while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, any drug, a vapor-releasing substance containing a toxic substance or any combination of liquor, drugs or vapor-releasing substances if the person is impaired to the slightest degree. **ARS 28-1381 A.1**

It is unlawful for a person to drive an off-highway vehicle with reckless disregard for the safety of person or property. **ARS 28-1174**

No person shall drive a motor operated vehicle cross-country on public or private lands where such cross-county driving is prohibited by rule or regulation or, in the case of private lands, by proper posting. **ARS 17-454**

A person shall not take wildlife, except aquatic wildlife, or discharge a firearm or shoot any other device from a motor vehicle...except as expressly permitted by the commission. No person may knowingly discharge any firearm or shoot any other device upon, from, across or into a road or railway. **ARS 17-301.B**

Title / Registration / License Plates:

Title and registration are two different things. A title is proof of ownership, while registration allows you to operate a vehicle on public roads. For title purposes, ATVs are classified as off-road recreational motor vehicles. A title is required for ATVs.

The Arizona Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) is responsible for title and registration of motor vehicles in Arizona. www.azdot.gov.

When you buy an ATV from a licensed dealer in Arizona, the dealer must submit proper documentation to the MVD. If a lien from a financial institution is on the ATV, the title will be mailed to the lien holder. If you buy from a private party, it is your responsibility to apply for a transfer of title with the MVD.

A new owner of an ATV receives from the MVD an off-road license plate. This plate only allows travel on streets or highways on which registration is not required and the plate is marked with the letters "RV".

If the driver of an off-road vehicle intends to drive on Arizona streets or highways on which registration is required, the vehicle must be properly registered. Some ATVs may require additional equipment or modifications in order to be street legal so that registration can be issued. To obtain registration, you must visit an MVD office; you are not required to bring the vehicle in to obtain registration.

Arizona law requires either an off-road plate or current registration plate to be securely fastened in a clearly visible position to the rear of the ATV.

Motorcycle Safety

Types of Motorcycles:

Street motorcycles are designed for use on public streets and highways. They have all the equipment for safe and enjoyable street operation.

Dual-Purpose motorcycles are equipped for use on the street and off-road trails.

Off-Road motorcycles are not street-legal, and are typically used for recreational or competitive use.

Risk Acceptance:

Once you become aware of the risks associated with motorcycling, and once you accept that risk, it is time to learn how risks can be managed. Choosing to accept the challenges of being a responsible motorcyclist means to think about the consequences of your riding behavior in traffic. It also means accepting personal responsibility for the results of your decisions and actions, as well as developing good skills and judgment.

Crashes – as in most crashes, there is rarely one single cause. There is usually an interaction of factors that accumulate and at some point in time they come together in such a way to produce a crash.

Most crashes happen on short trips (less than five miles long), just a few minutes after starting out.

Most riders are riding slower than 30 mph when a crash occurs.

Personal Protective Gear:

Helmets – There are four basic components of a DOT-approved helmet that works together to provide comfort and protection.

They are:

- an outer shell,
- an impact-absorbing liner,
- comfort padding
- a retention system.

There are **full-face** helmets which give the most protection since it covers all of the head and face, and a **three-quarters** or **open-face** helmet which can also offer protection, but doesn't offer the face and chin protection of the full-face helmets. ***Since head injuries account for the majority of motorcycle fatalities, head protection is vital. The best helmet is no guarantee against injury, but studies indicate that a rider who crashes without a helmet is five times more likely to have serious head injuries.***

Eye and Face Protection – Ordinary **glasses or sunglasses** are not sufficient eye protection for a motorcyclist. They can shatter or fly off, and they allow wind and airborne objects to reach the eyes. **Face shields** come in a variety of designs to fit most any helmet. **Goggles** provide good eye protection, but the rider is not protected from possible injuries to other areas of the face.

Footwear – Sturdy over-the-ankle boots help protect riders from a variety of riding hazards, such as stones that get thrown up from the roadway. They also prevent burns from hot exhaust pipes. Rubber-soled boots with low heels provide a strong grip on the pavement and help keep feet on the footrests. In the event of a crash, boots can provide valuable protection against foot and ankle injuries.

Gloves - Full-fingered gloves protect hands from the wind, sun, heat and cold. Reinforced motorcycle gloves help protect hands in the event of a fall.

Jackets, Pants, Riding Suits – Quality motorcycle protective gear will provide comfort in all conditions, and can help you avoid being distracted by adverse environmental elements. In case of a crash, good quality protective gear may prevent or reduce injury. Wearing **bright colors** is a wise choice and can also help a rider be more visible.

Rain Suits – High visibility orange or yellow colors are good choices. A feature to look for is elastic in the waist, pant legs, and sleeves.

Hearing Protection – Properly worn hearing protection can reduce wind (and engine) noise and make your ride more enjoyable, while allowing you to hear important sounds like car horns and sirens. You can choose a variety of styles, from disposable foam plugs to reusable custom-molded devices.

Pre-Ride Inspections:

Pre-ride inspections help ensure a trouble-free ride and provide confidence that your motorcycle will respond properly:

Tires and Wheels – Check: air pressure, tread, loose spokes, bearings and brakes.

Controls – Check: levers, switches, cables, hoses and throttle.

Lights and Electrics – Check: Working condition – Headlights and Taillights (both high and low beam), Turn Signals, Brake Lights.

Oil and Other Fluids (coolant, hydraulic fluid, fuel) – Check: levels and leaks.

Chassis – Check: suspension and drive components (chain, belt and driveshaft).

Side-stand

Mirrors – Check: Adjust and clean.

Brakes – Check: Front and Rear and make sure each one feels firm and holds the motorcycle.

Horn – Check: Make sure the horn works.

Passengers:

Carrying a passenger can affect the way a motorcycle handles. The weight makes starting out more difficult and reduces acceleration capability. More time and space will be required for passing. It may also increase stopping distance. Stability may be affected in turns and curves.

Impairments:

Alcohol is a depressant drug that affects safety. It reduces the ability to search for hazards, to evaluate factors that lead to crashes, and to execute coordinated physical movement.

Alcohol is not the only drug that affects the ability to ride safely. Many **over-the-counter and prescription drugs**, as well as **illegal drugs**, have effects and side effects that increase risk. While it is difficult to accurately determine the effects of some drugs on individual rider performance and behavior, the effects of drugs on the processes necessary to safely are known.

Fatigue/Drowsiness – Riding when tired raises the level of risk because the mind and the senses are not as responsive.

Emotions – It is not easy to determine the personal effects of emotions on riding, but experts recognize that feeling angry, troubled, or stressed makes safe, responsible riding more difficult.